WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image processing apparatus comprising:

an input means for inputting image data;

a frequency conversion means for converting the image data into frequency data in a frequency band;

a data processing means for performing predetermined processing on the frequency data generated by the frequency conversion means;

an illuminance detection means for detecting illuminance of the image data; and

a changing means for changing the operation of the data processing means on predetermined frequency data in accordance with an output from the illuminance detection means.

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2. An image processing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the illuminance detection means outputs a first output signal when detecting that the illuminance of the image data is lower than first illuminance, and

wherein when receiving the first output signal, the changing means changes the processing for high-frequency band data of the data processing means.

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3. An image processing apparatus according to claim 2,

wherein the data processing means is a quantization means, and

wherein when receiving the first output signal, the changing means changes a quantization step.

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4. An image processing apparatus according to claim 2,

wherein the data processing means is a multiplication means, and

- wherein when receiving the first output signal, the changing means sets a value smaller than a normal value for multiplication.
- 5. An image processing apparatus according to 15 claim 1,

wherein the illuminance detection means outputs a second output signal when detecting that the illuminance of the image data is lower than second illuminance, and

- wherein when receiving the second output signal, the changing means changes the processing for low-frequency band data of the data processing means.
- 6. An image processing apparatus according to 25 claim 5,

wherein the data processing means is a quantization means, and

wherein when receiving the second output signal, the changing means changes a quantization step.

7. An image processing apparatus according to claim 5,

wherein the data processing means is a multiplication means, and

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wherein when receiving the second output signal, the changing means sets a value smaller than a normal value for multiplication.

8. An image processing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the data processing means performs one

of frequency band division encoding and wavelet

conversion encoding.

- 9. An image processing apparatus according to claim 1,
- wherein the data processing means performs one of discrete cosine conversion and corrected discrete cosine conversion.
- 10. An image processing apparatus according to25 claim 1,

wherein the illuminance detection means detects the illuminance by referring to low-frequency band

data generated as a result of the conversion by the frequency conversion means.

11. An image processing apparatus for decoding encoded image data, comprising:

an input means for inputting the encoded image data;

a data processing means for performing predetermined processing on the encoded image data;

an illuminance detection means for detecting illuminance of the encoded image data; and

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a changing means for changing the operation of the data processing means on predetermined frequency data of the encoded image data in accordance with an output from the illuminance detection means.

12. An image processing apparatus according to claim 11,

wherein the illuminance detection means outputs

20 a first output signal when detecting that the

illuminance of the encoded image data is lower than

first illuminance, and

wherein when receiving the first output signal, the changing means changes the processing for high-frequency band data of the data processing means.

13. An image processing apparatus according to

claim 12,

wherein the data processing means is an inverse quantization means, and

wherein when receiving the first output signal, the changing means performs inverse quantization with a quantization step smaller than that at the time of encoding.

14. An image processing apparatus according to 10 claim 12,

wherein the data processing means is a multiplication means, and

wherein when receiving the first output signal, the changing means sets a value smaller than a normal value for multiplication.

15. An image processing apparatus according to claim 11,

wherein the illuminance detection means outputs

20 a second output signal when detecting that the

illuminance of the encoded image data is lower than

second illuminance, and

wherein when receiving the second output signal, the changing means changes the processing for low-frequency band data of the data processing means.

16. An image processing apparatus according to

claim 15,

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wherein the data processing means is an inverse quantization means, and

wherein when receiving the second output signal,

the changing means performs inverse quantization with
a quantization step smaller than that at the time of
encoding.

17. An image processing apparatus according to 10 claim 15,

wherein the data processing means is a multiplication means, and

wherein when receiving the second output signal, the changing means sets a value smaller than a normal value for multiplication.

18. An image processing apparatus according to claim 11,

wherein the data processing means performs one
of decoding of an image data to which frequency band
division encoding is performed and decoding of an
image data to which wavelet conversion encoding is
performed.

25 19. An image processing apparatus according to claim 11,

wherein the data processing means performs one

of decoding of an image data to which discrete cosine conversion is performed and decoding of an image data to which corrected discrete cosine conversion is performed.

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20. An image processing apparatus according to claim 11,

wherein the illuminance detection means detects the illuminance by referring to low-frequency band data among the encoded image data, which is generated as a result of frequency conversion.